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Application No. 10/623,120

Amendments to the drawings

Please replace the drawing represented by Figs. 1-6 with the attached new drawing represented by Figs. 1-6.

Please replace the drawing represented by Figs. 7-11 with the attached new drawing represented by Figs. 7-11.

Please replace the drawing represented by Figs. 12-15 with the attached new drawing represented by Figs. 12-15.

Please replace the drawing represented by Figs. 16-18 with the attached new drawing represented by Figs. 16-18.

Please replace the drawing represented by Figs. 21-27 with the attached new drawing represented by Figs. 21-27.

Please replace the drawing represented by Figs. 28-32 with the attached new drawing represented by Figs. 28-32.

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REMARKS

Drawings

Applicant has removed all superfluous lettering from the drawings.

In Fig. 2, applicant added referential character **16a** so as to render this figure consistent with the amended specification. In addition, applicant has removed referential character **60** from this figure.

In Fig. 4, applicant has added referential characters **53** and **54** to this figure so as to better define the present invention. Also, referential character **16a** has been added for the same reason as indicated above.

In Fig. 5, applicant has removed referential character **64**. In addition, applicant has removed the directional indicator, designated by letter "A", from this figure.

In Fig. 6, applicant has removed referential character **63** from this figure.

In Fig. 7, applicant has removed referential character **44** from this figure. In addition, applicant has removed directional indicators, designated by letters "C", "D", and "E", from this figure. Also, applicant has added referential characters **32a**, **62**, and **64** so as to render this figure consistent with the specification.

In Fig. 8, applicant has removed the directional indicator, designated by letter "D", from this figure.

In Fig. 10, applicant has removed referential character **31** from this figure so as to render the drawings consistent with the specification. In addition, applicant has removed the directional indicator, designated by the letter "C", from this figure. Furthermore, applicant has amended the specification so that the drawing represented by figure 10 is now briefly described as a front

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view. Thus, cross-sectional shading is no longer required in this figure.

In Fig. 11, applicant has removed referential characters **31** and **46** from this drawing.

In Fig. 12, applicant has added referential character **46** so as to render this drawing consistent with the amended specification. Also, applicant has removed the directional indicator, designated by letters "F" and "G", from this figure.

In Fig. 13, applicant has removed referential character **46** from this drawing. In addition, applicant has removed the directional indicator, designated by letter "G", from this figure.

In Fig. 14, applicant has removed the directional indicator, designated by letter "F", from this figure.

In Fig. 16, applicant has removed referential characters **26** and **39** from this figure and replaced them with referential characters **33** and **63**, respectively.

In Fig. 17a, applicant has removed referential character **39** from this figure.

In Figs. 19, 20, 21, 24, and 27, all directional indicators have been removed from these figures.

In Fig. 28, applicant has changed the lead line for referential character **45**. Also, referential character **26** has been changed to **33**. In addition, applicant has added a lead line to referential character **32**. Moreover, applicant has added referential character **32a** to this figure so as to render this drawing consistent with the amended specification.

In Figs. 29, 30, and 32 all directional indicators have been removed from these figures.

In Fig. 31, applicant has added referential characters **58a** and **59** to this drawing so as to render this drawing consistent with the amended specification.

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Specification

The Examiner has objected to the abstract of disclosure because the release member was not sufficiently described and because the button which actuates the release member is not properly set forth. The applicant has made the appropriate corrections to the abstract of disclosure. In particular, applicant has described the button and has added further disclosure pertaining to the release member. In addition, the ambiguities, associated with the recitation "a retracted position" that was cited by the Examiner has been removed.

The Examiner has objected to the disclosure because of several informalities. Applicant has replaced paragraphs, 26, 28, 31-32, 41-42, 50-53, and 55-57, which should correct the informalities as set forth by the Examiner in this office action.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 1-4, 9, and 14-31 because recitations such as "a face plate a front wall and a rear wall and a second sidewall" are confusing. Applicant has made the necessary corrections. In particular, this recitation has been amended to read "a face plate, a front wall, and a rear wall, and first and second sidewalls..." In addition, applicant has amended line 8 of claim 9 to read "side walls" as read on line 4 of the same claim. Regarding claims 30 and 32 these claims have been canceled and as such any issues regarding these claims should be considered moot.

35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-4, 9, and 14-31, have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

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applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has made the necessary corrections to independent claims 1, 9, 20, 24, 26, and 28, and as such these claims any claims depending therefrom should now be allowable. In particular, applicant has amended these claims so that recitations such as "the form of inverted "U" on line 17 of claim 1 has been changed to "the form of an inverted "U". Recitations such as "the front face of said housing" on line 21 of claim 15 have been changed to "the front face of said tumbler". Recitations such as "a sash stile" on line 9 of claim 26 have been changed to "a sash stile of the sliding sash member". Recitations such as "a head" on line 2 claim 3 have been changed to "said head". Recitations such as "a lowered position" on line 2 claim 3 have been changed to "said retracted position".

35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 9, 14, 20-24 and 26-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Simpson.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kelly et al. in view of Simpson.

The Examiner has rejected claims 15-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Simpson as applied to claims 1-4, 9, 14, 20-24, and 26-28 above, and further in view of Lindstrom et al.

The Examiner has rejected claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Simpson as applied to claims 1-4, 9, 14, 20-24, and 26-28 above, and further in view of Charlton.

Regarding the above rejections, applicant has combined independent claim 1 with all the

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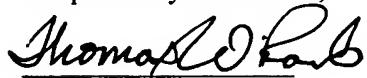
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limitations of dependent claims 30 and 31. Neither Brown, Simpson, Kelly, Lindstrom, nor Charlton either individually or any combination thereof teach or suggest of the applicant's invention and as such the above independent claims and any claims depending therefrom should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, applicant's claims are patentable over the cited prior art and the application should be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas A. O'Rourke
Reg. No.: 27,665
BODNER & O'ROURKE, L.L.P.
425 Broadhollow Road
Melville, New York 11747
(631) 249-7500

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing Response was mailed by first class mail,
postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 21st day of November, 2006.


Thomas A. O'Rourke